

Intelligence: *Intelligence is quickness in seeing things as they are.*—George Santayana (born Jorge Augustín Nicolás Ruiz de Santayana), Spanish-American poet, philosopher, 1863-1952

PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE



Jane Shimonishi

Hometown: Wahiawa, Hawaii

Years with Corps: 17-1/2

Works in: POD Executive Office

Responding to what needs to be done is a way of life for Jane Shimonishi, secretary to the commander. She said that throughout her 34-year-long career she has worried things through until they're successfully completed. Thus, she brings to her daily work not only the ability to keep things organized, but a great deal of skill as well.

"I still use shorthand," she said. "It's quick and accurate. If I were to transcribe from tape-recordings, that task alone would be a full-time job."

The ability to respond doesn't end with her working hours, and Shimonishi said that it's so important to her to stay healthy and feel fit that she lifts weights three times a week, does step-aerobics three times a week and walks for exercise with her husband of 34 years, Fred, another three times a week. "I love the way exercise gives me so much energy," she said.

Her two children — Sterling and Stacy — are grown now, and on their own, but Shimonishi burns off any excess energy she might have as a weekly practitioner of Japanese flower arranging. She has studied *ikebana* for many years and likes the sense of beauty that natural arrangements bring to a room.

Then, she adds that she can't imagine why there do not seem to be enough hours in a week and she feels like she's always rushing around.

Jane is making POD more productive.



Robert Wah Kwai Lau, Jr.

Hometown: Waipahu, Hawaii

Years with Corps: 11

Works in: Resource Management

Work-oriented thoughts never seem very far out of mind for finance and accounting officer Robert Lau. For the past two years he has been involved with the development of POD's ability to disburse foreign currency, and the creation of a foreign currency module for CEFMS, the newly instituted automated accounting system. The intensity of his involvement shows.

"We're one of the first DoD agencies to work with foreign currency outside of the host nations," he said. "We're disbursing in both Japanese *yen* and Korean *won*. There hasn't been anyone to show us the way so we've been in steady contact with USACE, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, and the Corps' systems programmers in Huntsville, Ala., to ensure disbursements are processed timely and in accordance with regs."

Lau said that he likes being a part of things and enjoys working in a job that gives him a sense of purpose.

"The uniqueness of what we're doing in POD kind of ties in with the fact that I like to play as hard as I work," he said. "I love tennis and have played it since I was eight. But, what I really enjoy most is playing in tournaments. I'm not as fit as I was when I played on the University of Hawaii tennis team, but for me it's the challenge to compete in a win-lose situation where only the winner will advance."

Robert is making POD more productive.